

JAPANESE WAR CRIMES "DOUBLE TENTH"
CASE, CHANGI, SINGAPORE.

AFFIDAVIT

I, CHARLES ERIC HILTERMANN, Merchant of BRINKMANN and Co., Singapore, with address C/o Hiltermann Bros., 24 Line Street, London, E.C.3. make oath and say as follows;

1. I was in Singapore at the time of the capitulation of the British forces to the Japanese in February 1942. Immediately after the capitulation and in company with most of the other civilians on the island I was interned in CHANGI GAOL. There I stayed until 15 October 1943. On that date and without warning I was taken to the Kempai-tai headquarters at the Y.M.C.A. Other people were taken with me and they were LIONEL GOODALL and JIMMY MILNE. We were not given any information as to why we were taken, nor was any charge made against us. We all three arrived at the Y.M.C.A. on the same day, 15 October and were at once put into various cages. All the time I was in the Y.M.C.A. which was four weeks there were anything from eighteen to twenty-five people in this cage. We just had bare boards to lie on and there was a pedestal W.C. in one corner which we had to use for all purposes, washing, drinking water and of course necessary calls of nature; our food consisted of very limited quantities of rice, which was a starvation diet.

2. Within half an hour of my arrival at the Y.M.C.A. I was pulled out for interrogation by the Japanese. The Japanese interrogator started off by saying: "We know everything, tell us all you know". I hadn't the slightest idea what they were talking about and I said so. Without more ado I was struck by the third Japanese person, who was obviously there purely in the capacity of a beater up. The other two were of course the interrogator and his interpreter. Then they started my interrogation proper. I was accused of spying, asked the names of spies in CHANGI and agents in SINGAPORE. I was also questioned about a radio transmitter. The whole interrogation lasted from 1.30 in the afternoon until 9.30 at night, when I was carried down to my cage in a semi-conscious condition. On six other interrogations within the next 10 days I had to undergo similar treatment.

3. My memory is a little vague as to the kind of various tortures which were inflicted on me during these questionings. One of the tortures I remember was being tied up in a kneeling position with a stick under my knees and hands tied behind my back. A rope was then tied to my wrist and over a pulley in the ceiling. One of the Japanese then pulled on the rope and I was hoisted up by my wrists. While in this agonising position I was beaten with sticks and ropes. I also had the water treatment which consisted of a cloth being put over my mouth and then water being poured on it and I very nearly suffocated. In order to breathe I had to take in a great quantity of water and this distended my stomach enormously. I was, however, spared the torture of somebody jumping on me.

4. Another method they used was to tie me to a table and burn me with cigarette ends and charcoals up and down my thighs. I have the scars of these still on me. These tortures I have enumerated were the major ones. All through these interrogations I was constantly beaten and kicked and knocked about by the interpreter, interrogator and any of the Japanese who were present.

2.

5. After ten days of this they gave up trying to get any information out of me and I was left more or less in peace. After four weeks in the Y.M.C.A. I was sent over to Smith Street Detention Barracks and there I was kept in a tiny cell measuring 6½ ft. by 5½ ft. There were sometimes as many as seven people in there at the same time. This minute cell had also a pedestal type "W.C." in it. On the occasion that there were seven people there we literally had to squat on the floor and there was no chance of stretching out. Apart from this physical discomfort there was the acute mental distress of hearing the screams and yells of other unfortunate people being tortured in other rooms in the same building, and never knowing when one was going to be called for interrogation and torture oneself. This mental torture was the worst part of the whole imprisonment which I suffered both in the Y.M.C.A. and Smith Street. It was almost worse in the Y.M.C.A. which was a large wooden building and as all the doors were open, one could hear everything that went on. It was like "bedlam" day and night.

6. Food at Smith Street was much the same as at the Y.M.C.A. It consisted of very limited quantities of rice - not enough to live on for very long. During the three months I was there nothing happened to me personally apart from the usual brutal treatment of the guards. Sometime in the middle of March I went back to the Y.M.C.A. and spent another three weeks there. I was finally released on the 8th April 1944 and was brought back to Changi where I spent four or five weeks in hospital.

7. During the time I was in the Y.M.C.A. and Smith Street, I saw a good many of the British people who were seized by the Kempei-tai during October 1943. On one occasion I saw the Bishop of Singapore who had been maltreated terribly. His legs from his hips to his ankles had been beaten to pulp. They were literally like raw meat. He could not move at all and was just about able to crawl. I also saw STEVENSON before he died. He was black and blue from beating. His body was in a terrible condition. He too could barely move himself. MIDDLEBROOK I saw while I was in Smith Street. He told me what treatment he had suffered during his interrogation and that No. 81 was the man responsible. He was in a very bad physical condition, covered in bruises and sores. FRASER I also saw in Smith Street. He had not been badly treated when I met him. He was only suffering from severe dysentery and was so weak that he had to be helped to the W.C. We ourselves were so weak at the time that we could hardly get him there. PERRY was in the opposite cell to me at Smith Street and I could see him through the bars. He was blown up like a balloon from beri-beri. CLARE was with me in the same cage at Smith Street. He too was in a very bad way from beating and general maltreatment. When he was brought into my cell I simply did not recognise him and had to ask him his name.]

8. With regard to the members of the Kempei-tai whom I saw in the Y.M.C.A. and Smith Street, I have looked carefully at the folder of photographs shown to me marked "Exhibit A" and attached to this my affidavit. In this folder of photographs I can positively identify Nos. 1, 3, 29, 30, 32, 81, 82, 67 and 84 as being members of the Kempei-tai whom I saw in the Y.M.C.A. and Smith Street.

9. With regard to these people who personally maltreated me, my memory is a little vague but I am almost certain that No. 30 was the man who interrogated me first and I am positive that No. 1 was the beater up on that occasion. The only other person I can recognise is No. 67. He used to come around the cages and rub iodine in our open sores. This was not done with any tenderness or with a view to alleviating our suffering. He obviously used to enjoy doing it and laughed at us.

10. All the Kempei-tai people were always very tidily dressed and smart in their appearance. They were usually dressed in civilian shark skin suits.

SWORN by the said CHARLES ERIC)
HILTERMANN at 3/9 Southampton)
Row in the County of London,)
this 28th day of January 1946)

(Signed) ERIC HILTERMANN.

Before me,

(Signed) J. DERMOT WALSH.
A Commissioner for Oaths.

Certified true copy.

(Signed) ?
Lt. Col.

私、新嘉坡「ブリンクマン」商會ノ商人、住所「ロンドン」「イースト・セントリィ」三、「ライム・ストリート」二四番地ノ「ヒルターマン兄弟商會」氣付ノ「チャールス・エリツク・ヒルターマン」ハ宣誓ノ上、次の如ク陳述ス。

(一) 私ハ一九四二年ノ昭和十七年ノ二月、英軍ノ日本軍ニ對スル降伏當時、新嘉坡ニ居タ。降伏直後、私ハ同島ノ大部分ノ一般入連ト共ニ「チャンギ」牢獄ニ抑留サレタ。私ハ同所ニ一九四三年ノ昭和十八年ノ十月十五日迄居タ。其日無警告ニテ、私ハY・M・C・Aニアル憲兵隊本部ヘ連行サレタ。他ノ人達モ私ト共ニ連行サレタガ、彼等ハ「ライオネル・グッドオール」ト「デミィ・ミルネ」デアツタ。我々ハ何故連行サレルノカニ付キ何等ノ通知モ受ケナカツタ。又我々ニ對シ何等ノ問罪モナサレナカツタ。我々全員三名ハY・M・C・Aニ同日ノ十月十五日ニ到着シ、直チニ夫々異ツタ獄房ニ入レラレタ。私がY・M・C・Aニ居タ四週間中、此ノ獄房ニハ十八人カラ二十五人ノ人々が居タ。我々ハ臥スベキ平板ヲ有シタニ過ギズ、一隅ニ台架式便所一箇ガアリ、之ヲ我々ハ凡ユル目的ニ使用セネバナ

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2.

ラナカツタ、即チ洗禮、飲水ソシテ用便モ勿
ノコトデアル。我々ノ食物ハ極限サレタ分量ノ
米デ、之ハ饑餓食デアツタ。

(二) 私が Y・M・C・A ニ到着シテ半時間内ニ私ハ日
本人ニ依ツテ訊問ニ引出サレタ。日本人訊問者
ハ「我々凡テヲ知ツテキルノダ、君ガ知ツテキ
ル凡テヲ我々ニ話セ」ト云ツテ訊問ヲ始メタ。
私ハ彼等ガ何ヲ云ツテキルノカ少シモ分ラナカ
ツタノデ私ハソウ云ツタ。其レ以上云フコトモ
ナク、私ハ第三ノ日本人ニ打叩カレタ、ソノ男
ハ純然タル殴打係トシテ其處ニキタコトハ明ラ
カデアツタ。他ノ二人ガ訊問者トソノ通譯デア
ツタコト勿論デアル。ソレカラ彼等ハ本營ノ訊
問ヲ開始シタ。私ハ「スパイ」ノ罪ヲ問ハレ、
「チャンギ」ノ「スパイ」及ビ新嘉坡ノ謀者ノ
名前ヲ訊ネラレタ。私ハ無線送信機ニ關シテモ
訊問サレタ。訊問ハ全部デ午前一時半カラ夜ノ
九時半迄續キ、私ハ半分意識ヲ失ツタ状態デ私
ノ獄房ヘ廻ビ下サレタ。ソノ後十日間ニ於ケル
六度ノ訊問デモ私ハ同様ノ扱ヒヲ受ケタノデア
ツタ。

(三) 之等ノ訊問中私ニ加ヘラレタ種々ナル拷問ノ種
類ニ就テハ私ノ記憶ハ稍々明確デハナイガ、私

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3.

ノ記憶スル拷問ノ一ツハ床ノ下ニ一本ノ棒ヲ當
テ隨ツイタ姿勢ヲ傳リ上ゲ、兩手ハ背後ニ縛ラ
レタモノデアツタ。ソレカラ一本ノ紐ガ私ノ腕
壓ニ結バレ、天井ニアル一偏ノ滑車ニ挂ラセタ。
次ニ一人ノ日本人ガ紐ヲ引張り私ハ腕壓ニテ吊
上ゲラレタ。此ノ苦悶姿勢中ニ私ハ機切ルビ紐
ヲ以テ打タレタ。私ハ亦水攻メラモ受ケタガ、
之ハ布ヲ私ノ口ニ被セタル後、ソノ上ニ水ヲ注グモ
ノデアツテ、私ハ正ニ殆ンド窒息スル所デアツ
タ。呼吸スル爲ニ私ハ多数ノ水ヲ飲マシメナラ
ナカッタ。ソシテ之ガ爲メ私ノ胃ハ非常ニ脹ラ
ンダ、シカシ乍ラ私ハ誰カガ私ニ脱ビカ、ル拷
問ハ免レタ。

(四) 彼等ガ用ヒタ今一ツノ方法ハ私ヲ机ニ縛リ付ケ
巻煙草ノ端及ビ兩切リノ葉巻煙草ヲ以テ私ノ腕
ヲ上カラ下ヘ焼クコトデアツタ。私ニハ今尙之
等ノ痕ガアル。私が列島シタ之等拷問ハソノ主
ナルモノデアツタ。是次ノ訊問ヲ通ジ、私ハ常
ニ通訳、訊問者及ビ難儀ナク居合セタ日本人ニ
付ツテ殴打サレ、罵ラレ、又叩キ廻サレタ。

(五) 新ル状況下ニ於ケル十日ノ後、彼等ハ私カラ情
報ヲ得ントスル試ミヲ斷念シ、私ハ學分カ平靜
ニ放置サレタ。Y・M・C・Aニ四週聞キタ後、

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私ハ「スミス」街聖置所ニ送ラレ、ソコデ六「
フイート」半ニ五「フイート」半ノ小房ニ留置
サレタ。ソノ内ニハ歳時ハ七人モノ多勢ノ人が
同時ニキタ。此ノ小房ニモ亦台架式便所ガ一ツ
アツタ。七人モキタ際ニハ、我々ハ文字通り床
ノ上ニ長マラネベナラス、身体ヲ俾バス機會ガ
無カツタ。此ノ肉体的苦痛ハ別トシテモ、同ジ
建物内ノ他ノ部屋ヲ訪問サレル不善ナル人々ノ
悲鳴、廻叫ヲ聞キ又何時臥同ニ時ト出サレ、考
問サレルカ際ラナイト云フ派シイ精神的苦痛ガ
アツタ。此ノ精神的訪問ハ私がY・M・C・A及
ビ「スミス」街テ受ケタ禁食全體ヲ通ジ最も愚
イモノデアツタ。Y・M・C・Aニ於テハ、大キ
ナ木造建築物デアリ、扉ガ凡テ開サレテキタ
ノデ、何ガ行ハレテキルカ全部開クコトが出来
タノデ同様ニ愚カツタ。ソレハ日、夜輪モ循環
病院ノ様デアツタ。

(六)「スミス」街ニ於ケル食物ハY・M・C・Aト大
体同ジデアツテ、極限サレタ量ノ米デ、永ク之
ヲ食シテ生キルニハ不充分デアツタ。私がキタ
三ヶ月間、番人ノ常習的野蠻ヲ取扱フ除イテ私
ハ個人的ニハ何事モ起ラナカツタ。三月中旬ノ
頃日私ハY・M・C・Aニ歸ツテ、ソコデ更ニ三

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通間モ送ツタ。私ハ一九四四年四月八日ニ遂ニ
釋放サレ「デヤンギ」ニ連れ戻サレ、「デヤン
ギ」ノ病院デ四、五週間通シタ。

(七) Y・M・O・A 及ビ「スミス」街ニ居タ間ニ、私
ハ一九四三年十月中ニ憲兵隊ニ逮捕サレタ數多
クノ英國人ヲ見タ。當時私ハ恐ロシク虐待サレ
タ新嘉坡ノ「ビショップ」ヲ見タ。彼ノ兩足ハ官
部カラ保ニ到ル迄ヒドク殴打サレテキタ、ソノ
兩足ハ文字通り生肉ノ様デアツタ。彼ハ全ク動
クコトが出来ズ、只一寸進フコトが出来ル程度
デアツタ。私ハ又「ステイーンズン」ヲ彼ガ
死ヌ前ニ見タ。彼ハ殴打ノタメ紫斑が出来テキ
タ。彼ノ体ハ恐ルベキ状態ニアツタ。彼モ亦辛
ジテ身動シテキタ。「ミドウルフロウツク」ニ
ハ私が「スミス」街ニキタ間ニ會ツタ。彼ハ訊
問中ニ受ケタ取扱ヲ私ニ語り、第八一號ガソノ
責任者ダト告ゲタ。彼ハ身体ノ具合ガ非常ニ悪
ク、打撲傷其ノ他ノ傷ダラケデアツタ。「フレ
イザー」ニモ亦「スミス」街デアツタ。彼ハ私
ガ會ツタ時ハ余リヒドク虐待サレテキナカツタ。
彼ハ單ニヒドイ赤刺ニ罹ツテ居リ、用便スルノ
ニ助ケラレネバナラナカッタ程衰弱シテキタ。

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當時我々自身非常ニ弱ツテキタノデ餘ヲ辛ウジ
テ用便ニ通レテ行クコトが出来タ程デアツタ。
「ベリー」ハ「スミス」街デハ私ノ向側ノ房ニ
居タ。ソレデ私ハ幾怒越シニ彼ヲ見ルコトが出
來タ。彼ハ脚氣ノ爲風船ノ如ク腫レテキタ。
「クラーク」ハ「スミス」街デ私ト同ジ獄房ニ
居タ。彼モ亦、殴打及ビ一般的虐待ノタメ非常
ニ具合が悪カツタ。彼ガ私ノ獄房ニ通じ込メレ
タ時、私ハ全ク彼デアルコトが判ラズ、彼ニ右
前ヲ尋ネナケレバナラナカツタ程デアツタ。